

21-55

# LINEAR IRRIGATION TECHNOLOGY PROJECT

for

Imperial Irrigation District

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## Section 1

### Introduction

The linear irrigation project was designed to evaluate and demonstrate the long-term economic and agronomic viability of this technology for the Imperial Valley conditions. This brief report is a summary of the activities for the first year of the evaluation.

A memorandum of understanding (MOU) was developed between the 4 interested groups for the evaluation of this project. The full MOU is included as Attachment A. The 4 parties include:

Imperial Irrigation District (IID)  
Valmont Irrigation (Valmont)  
Water Tech  
and 3 participating growers

In this unique demonstration project, the system design, installation, and operational training for the operation of the system was the responsibility of Valmont. In addition, the documentation of the economic/ agronomic conditions of the linears will be evaluated by Valmont. This was to include soil sampling, irrigation evaluations, etc.

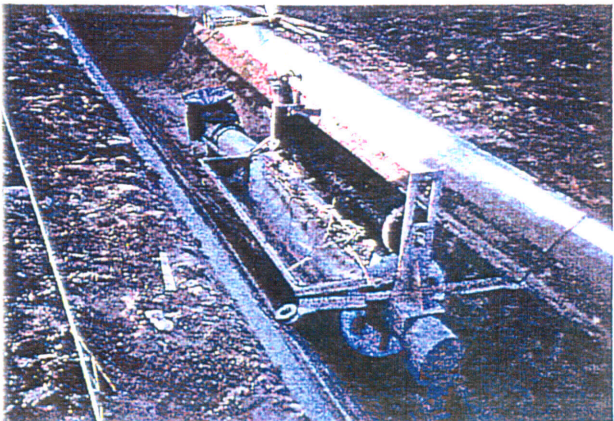
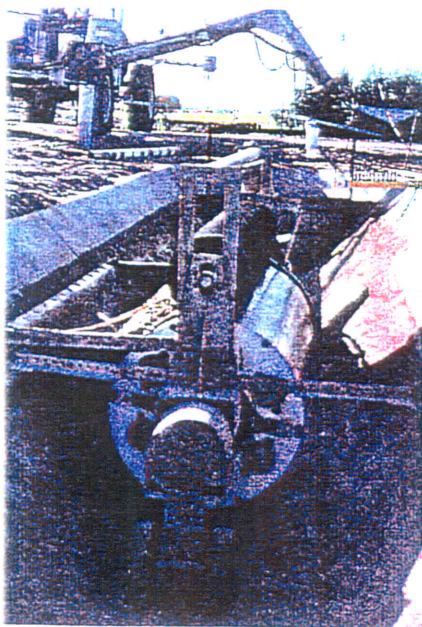
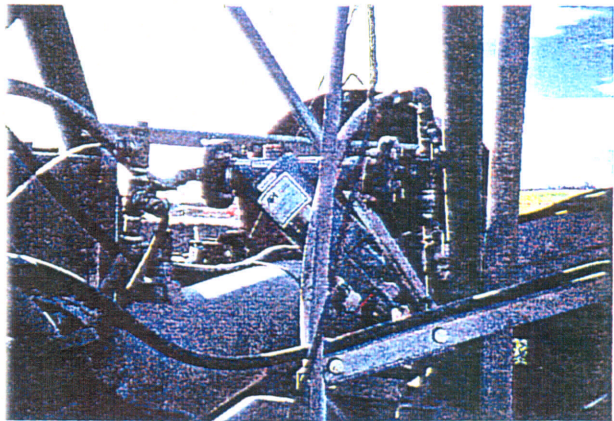
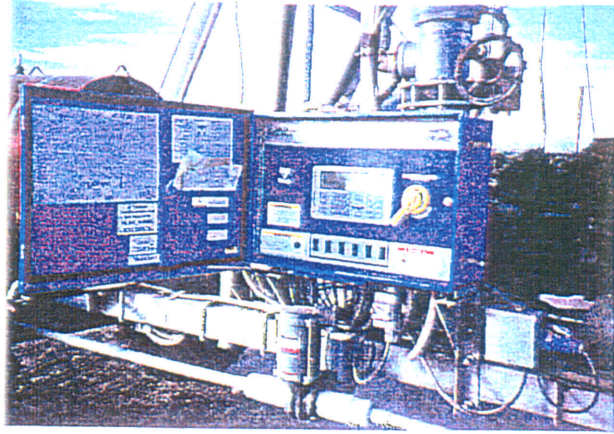
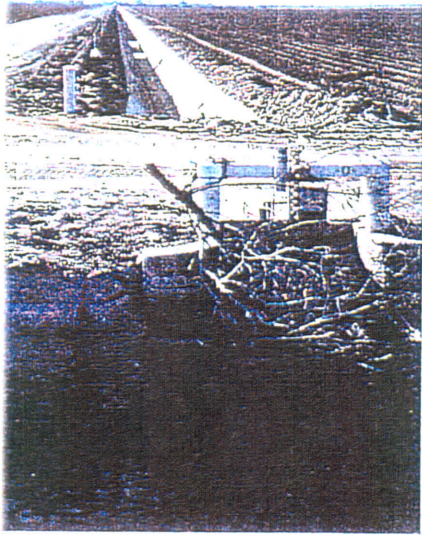
This unique program was set up on the basic idea that if the systems proved themselves viable, the growers would continue the payments for the cost of the units. If they were not viable, then the units would simply be returned back to Valmont.

This report is an attempt to compile information gathered for the first year of the project and to summarize the evaluation of the system by the growers in the first year of operation. Unfortunately, not all of the original participants in setting up this project are still associated with this project. This means there are some gaps in the data that was collected during the first year. Since there were gaps in the data, this report did not attempt to evaluate the field data for the first year of operation. These problems will be addressed during the second year of operation.

## Section 2

### Project Photos

It is difficult to appreciate the size and magnitude of the linears without photographs. The following pages show the systems during the winter of 1997. Each of the systems have unique characteristics that can be seen in the photos.



Grower 1